

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The claim objections have been addressed as follows:

Claims 1, 5, 7, and 13 have been amended.

Claims 8 and 10 have been cancelled. The subject matter of these claims, as well as Claims 11 and 12 (which have been cancelled) has been incorporated in new Claim 14, which has been written in a manner that avoids the claim objections.

Claims 1, 2, and 4 have been amended to clarify the manner in which these claims distinguish patentably from the prior art. Claims 9 and 13 have been made dependent upon new Claim 14.

Claim 1 clearly overcomes the prior art rejection thereof by reciting that a stop is formed on at least the outer periphery of the pin head or the outer periphery of the flange. Clearly this distinguishes patentably from Ueno, which was the subject of the rejection of Claim 1.

Accordingly, Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon should be allowed. Claims 2 and 4 have been amended for consistency with base Claim 1.

New Claim 14 recites, inter alia, that the stop includes outer peripheral portions of at least one of the pin head and the bushing flange. Here again, there is a clear patentable distinction between the claimed subject matter and the references, including Ueno and Akema et al., or any combination thereof. Accordingly, Claim 14 and

Claims 9 and 13, now dependent on Claim 14, should be allowed.


This application is now believed to be clearly in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NHS:lmb

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 903-9000
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By: 
Nelson H. Shapiro
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